



Inside Illinois DNR

November 2018

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IDNR Careers

IDNR offers a wide array of professional careers in the conservation and natural resource arena. Click [here](#) to see what jobs openings are available.

A Message from Director Wayne Rosenthal



Governor Bruce Rauner last week joined us at the Starved Rock State Park Lodge and Conference Center to announce the state has acquired 2,629 acres of property in LaSalle County to protect natural resources and expand recreation opportunities at Starved Rock and Matthiessen state parks.

The Governor noted that more than 3 million people visit Starved Rock and Matthiessen each year, and the expansion increases the amount of open space at our busiest state park complex by more than 50 percent.

The state acquired the land from Lone Star Industries Inc., doing business as Buzzi Unicem USA, which along with its predecessor companies owned the property since the early 1900s, originally mining coal, then limestone, and using the site for cement manufacturing. Thanks to mined land reclamation, existing forested areas, lakes, and a stretch of the scenic Vermilion River, it is a great site for developing additional outdoor recreational uses.

The IDNR purchased the property for \$11 million through the state's Open Land Trust, established to acquire property for conservation and recreation purposes. Now that the state owns the property, we will begin detailed planning for habitat conservation and recreation during the next year, then develop access areas and recreation facilities so we can open the area to the public. While planning and development of the site proceeds, the property will remain closed to the public.

Our initial conceptual plan for part of the property includes installation of recreational trails for hiking, cross country skiing, and construction of an off-highway vehicle recreation area. The initial conceptual plan also includes restoration of forest and prairie, installation of picnic and other day use facilities, access for kayaking, canoeing and rafting on the Vermilion River, development of a new campground, new fishing and hunting areas, as well as installation of access roads, parking and restroom facilities.

This is a very exciting project for the IDNR. I want to thank Governor Rauner for his vision in supporting this expansion of the Starved Rock and Matthiessen state park complex. I also want to thank Lone Star Industries for working with the state to make this property available for the use and enjoyment of area residents and visitors from throughout the state, the nation, and around the world.

Wayne Rosenthal

DNR in the news

**Mountain Biking
Capital**

Rut Signs

**Illinois River
Cruise**

**Alligator in Lake
Michigan**

Statewide Offices

Springfield, IL
217-782-6302

Bartlett, IL
847-608-3100

Benton, IL
618-435-8138

Chicago, IL
312-814-2070

Highlights



heroes. [For more information click here](#)

Old State Capitol Celebrates Illinois U.S. Grant Day on Nov. 3

The Old State Capitol in Springfield will celebrate President Ulysses S. Grant Day in Illinois with a special event on November 3 at 2:00 p.m. An Illinois House Resolution has proclaimed November 3, 2018 as "President Ulysses S. Grant Day" in the State of Illinois in honor of his achievements and in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of his election as president. In November 1868, 150 years ago, Grant was elected for the first of his two terms as President of the United States. Grant is one of our country's most underestimated



Singer-Songwriter Tom Irwin to perform at Songbag Concert in Galesburg on Nov. 11

The versatile and prolific singer-songwriter Tom Irwin will be making his Songbag Concert Series debut on November 11 at the Carl Sandburg State Historic Site in Galesburg. For more than 35 years, Tom Irwin has been taking life experiences and turning them into songs. He has 10 full length recordings to his credit. He is known for performing traditional folk and country tunes. Irwin covers Johnny Cash, Bob Dylan, Willie Nelson, Woody

Guthrie and many others. Irwin will provide an evening of music that will find you chuckling and tapping your feet as he tells stories through words and music. [For more information click here](#)



Dennis Stroughmatt et L 'Esprit Creole Nov. 3 at Dickson Mounds Museum

Join us from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on November 3 for an afternoon of vibrant music and stories relating to the Illinois Bicentennial as performed by Dennis Stroughmatt et L 'Esprit Creole at Dickson Mounds Museum. A blend of Celtic, Canadian and Old-Time sounds, this music bridges the gap between contemporary Canadian and Louisiana Cajun styles. Preserved by families in the Ozark foothills, the music remains largely intact and true to the traditions that have been passed down for over three centuries. [For more information click here](#)

Check out these amazing time-lapse videos of Illinois' [Great State Parks](#)



2018 Director's Hunt

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Highlights



Coastal Management Program

Exciting news! Our partner, the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center, is hiring a Coastal Outreach and Engagement specialist to provide technical expertise and leadership to the IDNR Coastal Management Program. Areas of work will

include community capacity building, habitat conservation, recreation and tourism, and education. The position will be based in our Chicago office. [For more information click here](#)



Furbearer Trapping Season Opens Nov. 10

Every person trapping furbearing mammals must report to IDNR, on supplied forms, all furbearing mammals trapped and sold during the open season.

Report forms are normally mailed to a random sample of approximately 20 percent of all licensed trappers. If you do not receive a report form/questionnaire from IDNR after the regular trapping season, you are not required to report your catch. [For more information click here](#)



Bicentennial Celebration at Cahokia Mounds Nov. 17

Sparks will fly in this recreation of a dramatic debate between our Territorial Governor Ninian Edwards and Potawatomi Chief Gomo on November 17 at 2:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site in Collinsville. Two hundred years ago, as the original thirteen colonies were bursting at the

seams, as early pioneers came flooding over the Alleghenies, and the tribes of the east were being pushed to the west, as Illinois was struggling to become a state, there were a series of events that are often left out of our history books. Yet these events were pivotal in forever shaping our state history and influencing our nation's relations with Native Americans. From the War of 1812 to the burning of the French Village of Peoria and the Fort Dearborn Massacre in Chicago, this engaging program will challenge the audience to reconsider what they think they know about Illinois' story. [For more information click here.](#)



Deer Accidentally Killed/Injured by Motor Vehicles

There is no limit to the number of deer that may be possessed under these circumstances. No part of a deer so killed can be bartered or sold. Except for law enforcement officers in the performance of their duties it is illegal to kill a deer crippled

by a collision with a motor vehicle or crippled by methods other than lawful hunting, unless permission has been obtained from a Conservation Police Officer. [For more information click here](#)



Firearm Deer Hunting Season Opens Nov. 16

The Illinois Firearm Deer Season opens November 16 through November 18. The second season is November 29 through December 2.

It is unlawful to:

- Hunt deer without an IDNR permit.
- Hunt deer unless the permit is properly signed and in the hunter's possession while hunting.
- Transfer, loan, use, possess, or falsify any license, permit, tag, or harvest record issued to another person.
- Harvest an antlered deer with an antlerless-only permit. An antlered deer is defined as a deer having at least one antler of a length of 3 inches or more. An antlerless deer is defined as a deer without antlers or a deer having antlers less than 3 inches long.
- Hunt deer in a county or area other than specified on the permit.
- Move, transport or field dress a deer upon kill before properly attaching the temporary harvest tag as instructed on the permit. Deer must be tagged immediately upon kill. [For more information click here](#)



\$14 Million for Capital Improvements at Illinois State Parks

Governor Rauner announced the release of funds for more than \$14 million in capital improvement projects at state parks and recreation areas managed by IDNR. This money was included in the FY19 bipartisan budget signed in June and will

be used for capital improvements to parks statewide. [For more information click here](#)



Spring Turkey Hunting Permits

Resident hunters can apply for the first lottery for 2019 Illinois Spring Wild Turkey Season permits online. The application deadline for the first lottery for 2019 resident spring turkey permits is December 1. Non-residents may apply beginning December 2. [For more information click here](#)

[here](#)



Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant

November 30 is the application deadline for the Illinois Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant program. Teachers, nature center personnel and adults who are youth group leaders (grades prekindergarten through 12) in Illinois may apply. Funds may be used to establish or enhance wildlife habitat on the school grounds or other public place. Generous donations from the Jadel Youth Fund, the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation and others help make this program possible. [For more information click here](#)



Annual Holiday Market at Cahokia Mounds

A unique shopping event featuring Native American arts and crafts is scheduled for Nov. 23-25 at the Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site.

More than 25 artists and vendors will be at Cahokia Mounds beginning at noon on Nov. 23 and beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Nov. 24-25. The artists will have a variety of tribal affiliations and media. [For more information click here](#)

[For more information check out our monthly calendar of events!](#)

Visit the IDNR on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

